

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

**Status of the Claims**

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 2, 3 and 16-28 are pending. Claims 2, 3 and 16-26 are allowed. Claim 27 is amended to set forth a nucleic acid complementary to the full length of a nucleic acid of claims 2 or 16. Support is found throughout the specification, and at, for example, page 5, lines 1-4 and in SEQ ID NOs: 1, 3 or 5. New claim 28 is added. Support for new claim 28 is found, for example, on page 5, lines 8-11.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,680,170**

The Examiner has rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Plowman, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,680,170). To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach each and every element of the claim. This rejection is rendered moot by amending claim 27 to set forth a nucleic acid complementary to the full length of a nucleic acid of claims 2 or 16. Plowman does not disclose or suggest a nucleic acid complementary to the full length of a nucleic acid of claims 2 or 16. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,110,664**

The Examiner has rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Cowser, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,110,664). This rejection is rendered moot by amending claim 27 to set forth a nucleic acid complementary to the full length of a nucleic acid of claims 2 or 16. Plowman does not disclose or suggest a nucleic acid complementary to the full length of a nucleic acid of claims 2 or 16. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

Appl. No. 10/029,115  
Amdt. dated August 16, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of May 17, 2005

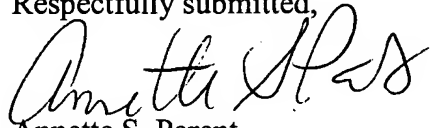
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**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Annette S. Parent", written in a cursive style.

Annette S. Parent  
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